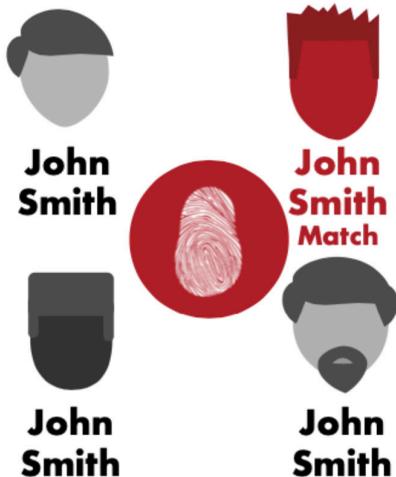


# ILLINOIS FINGERPRINT-BASED BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR FOID CARDS

## WHY DO WE WANT FINGERPRINT-BASED BACKGROUND CHECKS?

Requiring FOID applicants to submit fingerprints will help verify identity and ensure that an accurate criminal record can be ascertained at the time of the application.

- Fingerprinting is the only biometric-based background check that provides “positive identification” against government criminal record databases and verifies an individual’s identity.<sup>1</sup>
- Fingerprints cannot be changed whereas names can be changed. A name-based search can produce multiple and “false” (inaccurate) hits. A biometric-based check increases “positive identification”.



## HOW DOES IT WORK?

A name-based check is an isolated “one-time” transaction that will never provide an update based on change of criminal status.

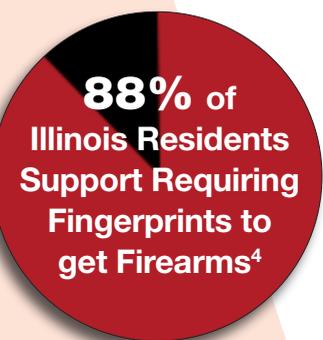
The Illinois Firearms Bureau will receive updates from State and Federal Databases if a criminal record is updated on a FOID card holder.

Fingerprints are stored in the NCIC (National Crime Information Center) database without expiration in order for authorities from every state to run prints against a single system. If an individual commits a crime in another state, the NCIC database will show the conviction, closing any state-to-state loopholes.<sup>2</sup>

To get fingerprinted, FOID applicants will go to an approved location for a one-time fingerprint scan. The BIO Bill (SB 1966, HA2<sup>3</sup>) caps the one-time fingerprint scan fee at \$30.

## THE PROCESS OF FINGERPRINTING IN BLOCKING ILLEGAL GUN OWNERSHIP<sup>1</sup>

- STEP 1.** When a person applies for a FOID card, they will submit fingerprints as part of their application.
- STEP 2.** Fingerprints are sent and run against the FBI's NCIC database alongside other information such as name, current address, and other biographical information to ensure no criminal record has been recorded.
- STEP 3.** If there is a criminal record match, then the individual will be denied a FOID card and cannot purchase the gun(s).
- STEP 4.** If an individual is cleared to buy a firearm but later arrested and charged, the arresting agency will submit new fingerprints upon arrest and run them against the NCIC database. The fingerprints from the individual's FOID application will indicate a match and the arresting agency will be responsible for contacting the proper authorities.
- STEP 5.** If convicted, the FOID card is revoked and guns are revoked.



## MORE RESOURCES

Find Fingerprint scan locations: [www.idfpr.com/LicenseLookUp/fingerprintlist.asp](http://www.idfpr.com/LicenseLookUp/fingerprintlist.asp)

Learn more about the Bio Bill: [www.gvpaction.com](http://www.gvpaction.com)

<sup>1</sup> Illinois State Police, “FOID Frequently Asked Questions: What do I need to Complete My Application,” available at <https://www.ispsfb.com/Public/FAQ.aspx>.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.fbi.gov/services/information-management/foipa/privacy-impact-assessments/iafis>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/fulltext.asp?DocName=10100SB1966ham002&GA=101&SessionId=108&DocTypeId=SB&LegID=119887&DocNum=1966&GAID=15&Session=>

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.uis.edu/surveyresearchoffice/wp-content/uploads/sites/162/2019/10/Illinois\\_Issues\\_Survey\\_2019\\_Release\\_Three-1.pdf](https://www.uis.edu/surveyresearchoffice/wp-content/uploads/sites/162/2019/10/Illinois_Issues_Survey_2019_Release_Three-1.pdf)